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IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace all claims in the instant application with the listing below amending claims 1-7, 9, 16, 18, 25-27, 29, 31, 33 and adding claims 34-38 as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:  
2  
3 a plurality of core fibers ~~[materials]~~ forming a sling body; and  
4  
5 a coating ~~[material]~~, said coating ~~[material comprising]~~ is at least an isocyanate  
6 mixed with an amine forming polyurea, said coating ~~[material]~~ is sprayed onto  
7 said plurality of core fibers, ~~[materials, the thickness of]~~ said coating [material] is  
8 [regulated] applied in [a predetermined pattern] patterns of varying thicknesses  
9 and locations along length of said sling body [to achieve desired] achieving  
10 operational properties that extend suitability for use of said coating and said  
11 plurality of core fibers based in part on operating conditions of said lifting sling.  
12
- 1 2. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating ~~[material]~~ is selected from the group consisting of a polyurea elastomer, [~~a~~  
3 ~~polyurethane,~~] or a hybrid polyurethane – polyurea elastomer.  
4
- 1 3. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating ~~[material]~~ has an operational temperature range of -40 to 175 degrees Celsius.  
3
- 1 4. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating ~~[material]~~ has a tensile strength in the range of up to 6,500 pounds per square

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3 inch, an elongation range of up to 300 percent, and a tear resistance in the range of up to  
4 600 pounds per linear inch.

5

1 5. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 coating [~~material~~] includes at least one of the following additives:

3

- 4 i) a catalyst;
- 5 ii) a stabilizer;
- 6 iii) a pigment;
- 7 iv) a fire retardant;
- 8 v) a static electricity reducing additive;
- 9 vi) an ultraviolet filtering additive; or
- 10 vii) a thermal cycling additive.

11

1 6. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 plurality of core fibers [~~materials~~] include at least one of the following:

3

- 4 i) nylon;
- 5 ii) polyester;
- 6 iii) a synthetic fiber;
- 7 iv) polypropylene;
- 8 v) wire rope;
- 9 vi) steel core;
- 10 vii) cordage rope;
- 11 viii) yarn;
- 12 ix) NOMAX;
- 13 x) KEVLAR; or

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14 xi) chain.

15

1 7. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said lifting  
2 sling further comprising a safety core, said safety core being bonded proximate to said  
3 plurality of core fibers [~~materials~~].

4

1 8. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 7, wherein said safety  
2 core traverses said lifting sling.

3

1 9. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 7, wherein said safety  
2 core is located, with respect to said plurality of core fibers [~~materials~~], in at least one of  
3 the following locations:

4

5 i) seam located;

6 ii) perimeter located; or

7 iii) centrally located.

8

1 10. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 7, wherein said  
2 safety core is interconnected with at least one of the following:

3

4 i) an indicator; or

5 ii) an electronic system.

6

1 11. (Canceled)

2

1 12.-15. (Withdrawn)

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1 16. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein said  
2 lifting sling further comprising at least one of the following:

3

- 4 i) an indicator secured proximate to said plurality of core fibers [~~materials~~];  
5 or  
6 ii) an electronic system secured proximate to said plurality of core fibers  
7 [~~materials~~].  
8

1 17. (Previously Presented) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 16, wherein said  
2 electronic system further comprising at least one of the following:

3

- 4 i) a microcontroller;  
5 ii) a graphical user interface;  
6 iii) a keypad;  
7 iv) a touch pad;  
8 v) a plurality of general purpose inputs and outputs;  
9 vi) a safety core interface;  
10 vii) a lifting sling measurement and dynamics interface;  
11 viii) an RFID interface;  
12 ix) an IRDA interface;  
13 x) a transceiver;  
14 xi) a wireless data link;  
15 xii) a LAN interface;  
16 xiii) a WAN interface;  
17 xiv) a serial data link;  
18 xv) a GPS interface;  
19 xvi) a power supply;

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- 20 xvii) a flash memory;  
21 xviii) a read only memory;  
22 xix) a real time clock;  
23 xx) an EEROM; or  
24 xxi) a NOVRAM.

25

1 18. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 16, wherein said  
2 indicator ~~[and]~~ or said electronic system indicates ~~[the]~~ operational condition of said  
3 lifting sling, ~~[the]~~ suitability for use of said lifting sling, ~~[and]~~ or ~~[the]~~ security status of  
4 an article secured by said lifting sling.

5

1 19-24 (Canceled)

2

1 25. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:

2

3 a plurality of core ~~[materials]~~ fibers forming a sling body;

4

5 a coating ~~[material]~~, said coating ~~[material]~~ is at least an isocyanate mixed with an  
6 amine forming polyurea, said coating is disposed onto said plurality of core fibers,

7

8 ~~[materials, said coating material is selected from the group consisting of a~~  
9 ~~polyurea elastomer, a polyurethane, or a hybrid polyurethane polyurea elastomer,~~  
10 ~~wherein the location and thickness of said coating material is regulated to achieve~~

11 ~~desired operational properties of said lifting sling]~~ said coating is applied in

12 patterns of varying thicknesses and locations along length of said sling body

13 achieving operational properties that extend suitability for use of said coating and

said plurality of core fibers, said coating thicknesses and locations along length of

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- 14        said sling body are selected based in part on operating conditions of said lifting  
15        sling; and  
16  
17        an electronic system secured proximate to said plurality of core fibers ~~[materials]~~,  
18        wherein by way of said electronic system said lifting sling data communicates  
19        with a plurality of data processing devices ~~[and]~~ or a plurality of global network  
20        based data processing resources.  
21
- 1        26. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 25, further  
2        comprising a cover, said cover being fitted around said plurality of core fibers ~~[materials]~~,  
3        said cover is coated with said coating ~~[material]~~.  
4
- 1        27. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 25, further  
2        comprising a cover, said cover being fitted around said plurality of core fibers ~~[materials]~~,  
3        said cover is coated and secured into position with said coating ~~[material]~~.  
4
- 1        28. (Canceled)  
2
- 1        29. (Currently Amended) A lifting sling, said lifting sling comprising:  
2  
3        a plurality of core ~~[materials]~~ fibers forming a sling body; and  
4  
5        a coating ~~[material]~~, said coating material is at least an isocyanate mixed with an  
6        amine forming polyurea, said coating is disposed onto said plurality of core fibers  
7        [materials, the thickness of said coating material is regulated in a predetermined  
8        pattern to achieve desired operational properties of said lifting sling] said coating  
9        is applied in patterns of varying thicknesses and locations along length of said

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10 sling body achieving operational properties that extend suitability for use of said  
11 coating and said plurality of core fibers, said coating thicknesses and locations  
12 along length of said sling body are selected based in part on operating conditions  
13 of said lifting sling;

14

15 said lifting sling further comprising at least one of the following:

16

17 i) an indicator secured proximate to said plurality of core fibers

18 [~~materials~~]; or

19 ii) an electronic system secured proximate to said plurality of core

20 fibers [~~materials~~];

21

22 wherein said indicator [~~and~~] or said electronic system indicates [~~the~~] operational  
23 condition of said lifting sling, [~~the~~] suitability for use of said lifting sling, [~~and~~] or  
24 [~~the~~] security status of an article secured by said lifting sling.

25

1 30. (Canceled)

2

1 31. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 29, wherein said  
2 lifting sling further comprising a safety core, said safety core being bonded proximate to  
3 said plurality of core fibers [~~materials~~].

4

1 32. (Withdrawn)

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1 33. (Currently Amended) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, further comprising  
2 a cover, said cover being fitted around said plurality of core fibers [~~materials~~], said cover  
3 is coated with said coating [~~material~~].

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1 34. (Newly Added) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, wherein single-core said  
2 sling body is formed by full seaming said plurality of core fibers with said coating and  
3 multi-core said sling body is formed by partial seaming said plurality of core fibers with  
4 said coating.

5

1 35. (Newly Added) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 25, wherein single-core  
2 said sling body is formed by full seaming said plurality of core fibers with said coating  
3 and multi-core said sling body is formed by partial seaming said plurality of core fibers  
4 with said coating.

5

1 36. (Newly Added) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 29, wherein single-core  
2 said sling body is formed by full seaming said plurality of core fibers with said coating  
3 and multi-core said sling body is formed by partial seaming said plurality of core fibers  
4 with said coating.

5

1 37. (Newly Added) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a  
2 cover, said cover being fitted around said plurality of core fibers, said cover is coated and  
3 secured into position with said coating.

4

1 38. (Newly Added) The lifting sling in accordance with claim 29, further comprising a  
2 cover, said cover being fitted around said plurality of core fibers, said cover is coated  
3 with said coating.

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